

REMARKS

Applicant's attorney wishes to thank Examiner Van Trieu for the courtesy of an interview on November 10, 2004.

Applicant's attorney's understanding of two of the items discussed at the interview were: (1) that the claim to priority should be confirmed, and (2) that the highest numbered claim before the Office prior to this amendment is 81.

Request is made for the Office to confirm and grant this application the benefit of priority of Australia patent application number PP4738, filed on July 20, 1998. The claim to priority was made in the inventor's declaration and at the time of filing.

In the present amendment claims 1 - 81 are canceled, and new claims 82 - 117 submitted. It is gratefully acknowledged that old claims 46 - 81 (as renumbered by the Office from 45 - 80) stand allowable but objected to. Those claims are here submitted as new claims 82 - 117.

Amendments have been made to new claims 82, 86, 94, 95, 96, 109 and 115 from their corresponding previous claims (48, 58, 59, 60, 73 and 79 respectively). Claim 82 and 115 better define the antennas, and the changes to claims 86, 94, 95, 96, and 109 are for antecedents, to remove double inclusions and improve wording.

New claim 118 is dependant on claim 82 and defines the interrogator antenna. Support is in the specification and drawings e.g. at the elements whose legends are listed in the claim.

New claims 119 and 120 are independent system and method claims. They define aspects of the invention. Support is in the drawings and description and reference may be made to those elements whose legends are listed in these claims.

The specification has been amended as called for in the Office letter. The Examiner's helpful comments and suggestions are appreciated and have been adopted.

An abstract has been added, as called for in the Office letter. The abstract has been taken from the corresponding EPO application.

The application is believed to now be in condition for allowance. However if there are any remaining issues, the

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Office is request to telephone applicant's attorney so that they may be efficiently and promptly resolved.

A Notice of Allowance is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450 on the date set forth below.

Signed *Roland Plottel*
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Date NOV 30 2004